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## 2014 Urban Forestry End of Year Report

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The City of West Lafayette's urban forest is in flux as the effect of emerald ash borer is felt. Ninety eight street trees died due to EAB compared to the 33 that died the year prior. At least 145 street trees were removed in 2014 due to EAB and general decline which is much higher than the 54 trees the year prior. Currently there are approximately 743 ash still standing on the along the city streets.

To counteract the effects of the high mortality of our urban street trees the city and Tree Friends planted many trees.

Spring of 2014:

1. Operation Releaf- 31 trees planted. Funding: CDBG & West Lafayette/ WLTF
2. Experimental Forest – 10 unique cultivars or species. Funding: WLTF
3. In one of the biggest plantings in city history, 800 trees stretching along the new multiuse trail next to the new State Road 231 were installed. The trees ran from SR 52 all the way down to Airport Road. Funding: City
4. Arbor Day – 5 trees on Trailhead Park. Funding: Purdue Honor Students, the West Lafayette Tree Friends, WL Parks and Recreation Department, and donations in memory of Nancy Kriebel

Fall of 2014:

1. The fall portion of Operation Releaf included 120 trees.
  - a. Amberleigh Village, Barberry Heights and Prophets Ridge received 82 trees with assistance from a DNR grant for \$10000
  - b. 26 of the Operation Releaf trees were planted near campus with a CDBG grant
  - c. The WLTF planted another 12 trees as part of the Operation Releaf including one paid for with donations in memory of Bob Eichhorn.
2. The redevelopment of Tapawingo Drive North saw 4 new trees planted. Funding: Engineering
3. The redevelopment of Salisbury Phase 3 included 34 trees; some were relocated to Cumberland school due to narrow tree lawns on Salisbury. Funding: Engineering
4. West Lafayette Tree Friends Founder Day – 3 trees at Police Station Funding: Neighborwoods

In total, 1007 trees were planted in 2014.

This year was also a great year for the West Lafayette Tree Friends. A total of 1,541 trees were properly pruned during the year. These volunteer hours are valued at \$3,369.66 which exceeds the values of the past two years.

198 residential landscape inspections were completed to meet the West Lafayette Landscape Ordinance and ensure all new homes have street trees (one tree/40' of frontage). New developments

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such as the 720 Building on Northwestern (28 street trees) and Wang Hall (19 street trees) also added to our inventory as the developer is required to meet the same ordinance. Also several existing businesses were inspected to ensure businesses met the requirements of their planned development. Businesses such as McDonalds (on State & River Road) and Chauncey Square had lost trees and were required to replace those trees.

Coming up, Operation Releaf Spring 2015 – 110 trees

The urban forestry intern for the Department of Development put in 350 hours this year from the end of March through the beginning of December which is approximately 10-15 hours per week.